

Berman Center for Animal Care in Westland 900 N. Newburgh Westland, Mi 48185 734.721.7300 June 12, 2012

Detroit Center for Animal Care 7401 Chrysler Dr. Detroit, MI 48211 313.872.3400 The Honorable Joe Hune, Chairman Senate Agriculture Committee Michigan State Senate PO Box 30036, 505 Farnum Bldg. Lansing, MI 48909-7536

Dear Chairman Hune:

I am writing with regard to Senate Bills 423 and 424, which would effectively end the euthanasia of cats and dogs by gas chamber here in Michigan. The Michigan Humane Society, the State's largest and oldest animal welfare organization, strongly supports these bills.

Rochester Hills Center for Animal Care 3600 W. Auburn Rd. Rochester Hills, MI 48309 248.852.7420

Euthanasia by gas chamber is an outdated method to end an animal's life. It is highly stressful and potentially painful, sometimes taking more than 20 minutes for an animal to pass using this method.

There is a more humane alternative. Euthanasia by injection is a painless, quick and effective way to end an animal's life, should that choice have to be made.

Not only is it more humane, it is also just as cost-effective for shelters and agencies that still make use of gas chambers to instead perform euthanasia by injection. In addition, grants are available for organizations that would be required to transition away from their use of gas chambers, to help alleviate any impact on already-strained budgets.

The Michigan Humane Society strongly supports and urges passage of this critical legislation that will create a more humane Michigan; MHS would also oppose any effort to exempt particular organizations or groups from this legislation, as all animal control facilities and protection agencies—including MHS—should be held to this same standard.

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Cal Morgan

President and CEO